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**APPLICATION
FOR
UNITED STATES
LETTERS PATENT**

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FOR: ARRAY WAVEGUIDE GRATING,
OPTICAL TRANSMITTER AND
OPTICAL COMMUNICATION
SYSTEM WITH MONITORING
FUNCTION

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ARRAY WAVEGUIDE GRATING, OPTICAL TRANSMITTER AND OPTICAL
COMMUNICATION SYSTEM WITH MONITORING FUNCTION

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This application claims benefit of Japanese Patent
5 Application No. 2000-348871 filed on November 16, 2000,
the contents of which are incorporated by the reference.

The present invention relates to array waveguide
grating, optical transmitter and optical communication
system with a monitoring function for monitoring signal.

10 In a DWDM (Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing)
system, for example, alive monitoring and level
equalization of signal are required. Accordingly, in
such a system couplers or like tapping devices are
heretofore provided before or after an AWG (arrayed
15 waveguide grating) to branch signal and monitor the
branched signal so as to meet the requirements.

Fig. 25 shows a summary of a prior art synthesizer
using a tapping device. Signals 101₁ to 101_N of individual
wavelengths are inputted to an arrayed waveguide grating
20 102, and outputted as resultant wavelength multiplexed
signal 103 therefrom. On the input side of the arrayed
waveguide grating 102, tapping devices 104₁ to 104_N are
provided in correspondence to the individual wavelengths
for branching the signal to obtain monitoring signals
25 105₁ to 105_N.

In the system using the above synthesizer or array
waveguide grating, since the tapping devices 104₁ to 104_N
are used for branching signal, it is necessary to prepare

such components as couplers and optical fibers for connecting the couplers in number corresponding to the number of monitoring channels. Therefore, with increase of the channel number the number of components necessary for the monitoring is increased, thus leading to size increase of the arrayed waveguide grating as a whole. In addition, the increase of the number of components leads to device cost increase.

Accordingly, Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 9-49937 proposes an arrayed waveguide grating, in which N input waveguides for wavelength monitoring are provided in addition to N input waveguides for signal inputting, and also output waveguides for wavelength monitoring are provided each for each side of the N output waveguides.

Fig. 26 shows the construction of this arrayed waveguide grating. As shown, on a substrate 111 are formed N input waveguides 112 for signals, N input waveguides 113 for wavelength monitoring signals, a waveguide array 114 of M waveguides having progressively increasing length with a predetermined waveguide length difference ΔL , N output waveguides 115, output waveguides 116 and 117 for wavelength monitoring each provided on each side of the output waveguides 115, an input side slab-waveguide inter-connecting the two pairs input waveguides 112 and 113 and the waveguide array 114, and an output side slab-waveguide 119 inter-connecting the waveguide array 114 and the three pairs of output waveguides 115 to 117.

In the proposed array waveguide grating, the N input waveguides 112 connected to the slab-waveguide 118 and the N output waveguides 115 connected to the output side slab-waveguide 119 are used for the signals, while the N input waveguides 113 connected to the input side slab-waveguide 116 and the output waveguides 116 and 117 for wavelength monitoring connected to the output side slab-waveguides 119 are used for the waveguide monitoring. This waveguide grating, therefore, has a drawback that monitoring with the actual signals is impossible.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An object of the present invention, therefore, is to provide arrayed waveguide grating, optical transmission system and optical communication system, which permits using actual signals to be multiplexed for monitoring these signals and suppressing system size and cost increase as much as possible.

According to a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided an arrayed waveguide grating having a slab-waveguide, the slab-waveguide comprising: a plurality of input ports for inputting signals of different wavelengths in correspondence to these wavelengths; an output port disposed on the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams inputted from the input ports for outputting a signal obtained as a result of multiplexing of the individual wavelengths; and a monitor signal port disposed on the

focus position of higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input ports for monitoring the multiplexed signal.

5 In this invention, while outputting the 0-th order diffraction beams obtained from the signals inputted to the slab-waveguide of the arrayed waveguide grating from the output port, the monitor signal port is provided at the focus position of higher order diffraction beams
10 other than the 0-th order, for instance, the 1-st order diffraction beams, for monitoring the wavelength multiplexed signal by using this port.

 According to a second aspect of the present invention, there is provided an arrayed waveguide
15 grating having a slab-waveguide, the slab-waveguide comprising: a plurality of input ports for inputting signals of different wavelengths in correspondence to these wavelengths; an output port disposed on the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams inputted
20 from the input ports for outputting a signal obtained as a result of multiplexing of the individual wavelengths; and a higher order diffraction beam reflecting means disposed on the focus position of higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order
25 obtained from the signals inputted from the input ports for reflecting the higher order diffraction beams to the side of the plurality of input ports.

 In this invention, while outputting the 0-th order

diffraction beams obtained from the signals inputted to the slab-waveguide of the arrayed waveguide grating, a higher order diffraction beam reflecting means is disposed at the focus position of higher order

5 diffraction beams other than the 0-th order, for instance, the 1-st order diffraction beams, for returning the wavelength multiplexed signal to the side of the input ports. Thus, it is possible to monitor the signals of the different wavelengths obtained as a result of demultiplexing of the signal passed in the reverse direction through the arrayed waveguide grating on the input side thereof.

According to a third aspect of the present invention, there is provided an arrayed waveguide grating having a slab-waveguide, the slab-waveguide comprising: a plurality of input ports for inputting signals of different wavelengths in correspondence to these wavelengths; an output port disposed on the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams inputted from the input ports for outputting a signal obtained as a result of multiplexing of the individual wavelengths; a higher order diffraction beam reflecting means disposed on the focus position of higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input ports for reflecting the higher order diffraction beams to the side of the plurality of input ports; and one or more monitor signal ports disposed at a position or positions other than the

plurality of input ports for taking out a signal or signals reflected from the higher order diffraction beam reflecting means.

In this invention, while outputting the 0-th order
5 diffraction beams of the signals inputted to the slab-waveguide of the arrayed waveguide grating, a higher order diffraction beam reflecting means is disposed at the focus position of higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order, for instance
10 the 1-st order diffraction beams, for returning the wavelength multiplexed signal to the side of the input ports. On the input side, one or more monitor signal ports are disposed, and thus a monitor signal or monitor signals can be obtained from the monitor signal port or ports.

15 According to a fourth aspect of the present invention, there is provided an optical transmission system comprising: an output side slab-waveguide including, a plurality of signal sources each provided for each peculiar wavelength, an input waveguide for
20 inputting signals of different wavelengths from these signal sources in correspondence to these wavelengths, a channel waveguide array having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference, an input side slab-waveguide
25 inter-connecting the input side of the channel waveguide array and the input waveguide, and an output port connected to the output side of the channel waveguide array and disposed at the focus position of the 0-th order

diffraction beams inputted from the input waveguides through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array for outputting a wavelength multiplexed signal; an output waveguide connected to the output port
5 for outputting the multiplexed signal to be transmitted; a monitor signal separating means for demultiplexing, by using the channel waveguide array, the multiplexed signal obtained in the output side slab-waveguide at the focus position of higher order diffraction beams other
10 than the 0-th order obtained from the signals from the input waveguide, thereby separating the monitor signals of wavelengths corresponding to those of the signals inputted from the input waveguides; an output level detecting means for detecting, from the signals of
15 different wavelengths obtained from the monitor signal separating means, the output levels of the individual wavelength signals from the plurality of signal sources; and a signal source power control means for controlling the power levels of the plurality of signal sources
20 according to the output levels of the individual wavelength signals from the plurality of signal sources as detected by the output level detecting means.

In this invention, while outputting the wavelength multiplexed signal for transmission from the output
25 waveguide, the monitor signal separating means demultiplexes, by using the channel waveguide array, the wavelength multiplexed signal obtained in the output side slab-waveguide at the focus position of higher order

diffraction beams other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals from the input waveguide, thereby separating monitor signals of wavelengths corresponding to those of the signals inputted from the input waveguides. The
5 output levels of the signals of the different wavelengths corresponding to those of the plurality of signal sources are detected from the separated individual wavelength signal signals, and the power levels of the plurality of the signal sources are controlled according to the
10 detected output levels of the different wavelength signals of the plurality of signal sources.

According to a fifth aspect of the present invention, there is provided an optical transmission system comprising: a plurality of signal sources each
15 provided for each peculiar wavelength; an input waveguide for inputting signals of different wavelengths from these signal sources in correspondence to these wavelengths; a channel waveguide array having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined
20 waveguide length difference; an input side slab-waveguide inter-connecting the input side of the channel waveguide array and the input waveguide; an output side slab-waveguide including an output port connected to the output side of the channel waveguide array and disposed
25 at the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams inputted from the input waveguides through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array for outputting a wavelength multiplexed signal and a monitor

signal port disposed at the focus position of higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguide; an output waveguide connected to the output port for outputting
5 the multiplexed signal to be transmitted; a monitor signal separating means for demultiplexing, by using the channel waveguide array, the individual wavelength monitor signals from the wavelength multiplexed signal obtained from the monitor port; an output level detecting
10 means for detecting, from the signals of individual wavelengths obtained from the monitor signal separating means, the output levels of the individual wavelength signal signals from the plurality of signal sources; and a signal source power control means for controlling the
15 power levels of the plurality of signal sources according to the output levels of the individual wavelength signals from the plurality of signal sources as detected by the output level detecting means.

In this invention, while outputting the wavelength
20 multiplexed signal for transmission from the output waveguide, the monitor signal separating means separates the higher order diffraction beam signals other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides from the monitor signal port disposed
25 on the output side slab-waveguide at the focus position of the diffracted signals. The obtained wavelength multiplexed signal is demultiplexed by using the channel waveguide array to obtain the monitor signals of the

individual wavelengths. The output levels of the individual wavelength signals of the plurality of signal sources are detected from the obtained signals of the individual wavelengths, and the power levels of the plurality of signal sources are controlled according to the detected output levels of the individual wavelength signals of the plurality of signal sources.

According to a sixth aspect of the present invention, there is provided an optical transmission system comprising: an input waveguide for inputting signals of different wavelengths in correspondence to these wavelengths; a channel waveguide array having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference; an input side slab-waveguide inter-connecting the input side of the channel waveguide array and the input waveguide; an output side slab-waveguide including an output port connected to the output side of the channel waveguide array and disposed at the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams inputted from the input waveguides through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array for outputting a wavelength multiplexed signal; an output waveguide connected to the output port for outputting the multiplexed signal to be transmitted; a monitor signal separating means for demultiplexing, by using the channel waveguide array, the multiplexed signal obtained at the focus position of higher order diffraction beam other than 0-th order of the multiplexed

signals inputted from the input waveguide in the output slab-waveguide to obtain the individual wavelength monitor signals; an output level detecting means for detecting, from the signals of individual wavelengths
5 obtained from the monitor signal separating means, the output levels of the individual wavelength; and a signal incidence level control means for controlling the incidence levels of the individual wavelength signals incident on the plurality of input waveguides according
10 to the output levels of the individual wavelength signals as detected by the output level detecting means.

In this invention, while outputting the wavelength multiplexed signal for transmission from the output waveguide, the monitor signal separating means
15 demultiplexes, by using the channel waveguide array, the wavelength multiplexed signal obtained in the output side slab-waveguide at the focus position of the higher order diffraction beam signals other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals obtained from the input
20 waveguides, thus obtaining the monitor signals of the individual wavelengths. The output levels of the individual wavelength signals of the plurality of signal sources are detected from the obtained signal signals of the individual wavelengths, and the power levels of
25 the plurality of signal sources are controlled according to detected output levels of the individual wavelength signals of the plurality of signal sources. This case of the invention is applicable not only to the signals

obtained from the signal sources but also to relayed signals.

According to a seventh aspect of the present invention, there is provided an optical transmission system comprising: a plurality of input waveguides for inputting signals of different wavelengths in correspondence to these wavelengths; a channel waveguide array having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference; an input side slab-waveguide inter-connecting the input side of the channel waveguide array and the input waveguide; an output side slab-waveguide including an output port connected to the output side of the channel waveguide array and disposed at the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams inputted from the input waveguides through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array for outputting a wavelength multiplexed signal and a monitor signal port disposed at the focus position of higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order obtained from the signal inputted from the input waveguide; an output waveguide connected to the output port for outputting the multiplexed signal to be transmitted; a monitor signal separating means for demultiplexing or separating, by using the channel waveguide array, the wavelength multiplexed signal obtained from the monitor port to obtain the individual wavelength monitor outputs; an output level detecting means for detecting, from the

signals of individual wavelengths obtained from the monitor signal separating means, the output levels of the individual wavelength; and a signal incidence control means for controlling the incidence levels of the individual wavelength signals incident on the plurality of input waveguides according to the output levels of the individual wavelength signals as detected by the output level detecting means.

In this invention, while outputting the wavelength multiplexed signal for transmission from the output waveguide, the monitor signal separating means separates the higher order diffraction beam signals other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides from the output port disposed in the output side slab-waveguide at the focus position of the diffracted beams. The wavelength multiplexed signal thus obtained is demultiplexed by using the channel waveguide array to obtain the monitor signals of the individual wavelengths. The output levels of the signals of the individual wavelengths are detected from the obtained individual wavelength signals, and the power levels of the plurality of signal sources are controlled according to the detected output levels of the individual wavelength signals. This case of the invention is applicable not only to the signals obtained from the signal sources but also to relayed signals.

According to an eighth aspect of the present invention, there is provided an optical transmission

system comprising: an input waveguides for inputting signals of different wavelengths in correspondence to these wavelengths; a channel waveguide array having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference; an input side slab-waveguide inter-connecting the input side of the channel waveguide array and the input waveguide; an output side slab-waveguide, including an output port connected to the output side of the channel waveguide array and disposed at the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams inputted from the input waveguides through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array for outputting a wavelength multiplexed signal; an output waveguide connected to the output port for outputting the multiplexed signal to be transmitted; and a monitor signal separating means for demultiplexing or separating, by using the channel waveguide array, the multiplexed signal obtained at the focus position of higher order diffraction beam other than 0-th order of the multiplexed signals inputted from the input waveguide in the output slab-waveguide to obtain the individual wavelength monitor signal outputs.

In this invention, the wavelength multiplexed signal obtained in the output side slab-waveguide at the focus position of the higher order diffraction beam signals other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides are demultiplexed, thus obtaining the monitor signals of the

individual wavelengths.

According to a ninth aspect of the present invention, there is provided an arrayed waveguide grating comprising: an input waveguides for inputting
5 signals of different wavelengths in correspondence to these wavelengths; a channel waveguide array having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference; an input side slab-waveguide inter-connecting the input side of the
10 channel waveguide array and the input waveguides and having monitor signal ports for monitoring signals returning from the channel waveguide array; an output side slab-waveguide including an output side slab-waveguide including an output port connected to the
15 output side of the channel waveguide array and disposed at the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams inputted from the input waveguides through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array for outputting a wavelength multiplexed signal and a signal
20 returning means for causing a signal converged on the focus position of higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides to return from the focus position to the input side; and an output waveguide
25 connected to the output port for obtaining the multiplexed signal.

In this invention, the output side slab-waveguide includes the output port for outputting the wavelength

5 multiplexed signal signals at the focus position of the 0-th diffraction beams inputted from the input waveguides and a signal returning means for returning the signal is converged on the focus position of the higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order inputted from the input waveguides from the focus position to the input side, and the monitor signal returned through the channel waveguide array to the input side slab-waveguide is taken out from the monitor signal.

10 According to a tenth aspect of the present invention, there is provided the arrayed waveguide grating according to the ninth aspect, wherein the signal returning means is a reflecting means disposed at the focus position of higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides for reflecting the higher order diffraction beams to the side of the plurality of input waveguides.

20 In this invention, a reflecting means such as a mirror is used as the signal returning means.

25 According to an eleventh aspect of the present invention, there is provided an arrayed waveguide grating comprising: a substrate; input waveguides disposed on the substrate for inputting signals of individual wavelengths in correspondence thereto; a channel waveguide grating disposed on the substrate and having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference; an input

side slab-waveguide disposed on the substrate and inter-connecting the input side of the channel waveguide array and the input waveguides; an output side slab-waveguide connected to the output side of the channel waveguide array and disposed at the focus position of the 0-th diffraction beams obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array for outputting a wavelength multiplexed signal and a monitor signal port disposed at the focus position of higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides; an output waveguide connected to the output port; a waveguide disposed on the substrate and having one terminal connected to the monitor signal port of the output side slab-waveguide and the other terminal disposed on the inner side of one end face of the substrate; and a reflecting means disposed at the other terminal of the waveguide for reflecting the signal led out from the monitor signal port.

In this invention, the monitor signal taken out from the output waveguide is reflected and returned by the reflecting means such as a mirror provided on the waveguide on the substrate.

According to a twelfth aspect of the present invention, there is provided an arrayed waveguide rating comprising: a substrate; input waveguides disposed on the substrate for inputting signals of individual

wavelengths in correspondence thereto; a channel waveguide grating disposed on the substrate and having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference; an input side
5 slab-waveguide disposed on the substrate and inter-connecting the input side of the channel waveguide array and the input waveguides; an output side slab-waveguide connected to the output side of the channel waveguide array and having a wavelength multiplexed signal output
10 port disposed at the focus position of the 0-th diffraction beams obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array, a monitor signal output port disposed at the focus position
15 of the 0-th order diffraction beams obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides and a monitor signal input port for outputting an output from a predetermined path, through which the signal outputted from the monitor signal output port returns, toward the
20 plurality of input waveguides; an output waveguide connected to the output port; and a waveguide disposed on the substrate and optically connecting the monitor signal output port and monitor signal input port.

In this invention, the monitor signals taken out
25 from the output waveguide is returned by the waveguide itself on the substrate.

According to a thirteenth aspect of the present invention, there is provided an arrayed waveguide

grating comprising: a substrate; input waveguides disposed on the substrate for inputting signals of individual wavelengths in correspondence thereto; a channel waveguide grating disposed on the substrate and having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference; an input side slab-waveguide disposed on the substrate and inter-connecting the input side of the channel waveguide array and the input waveguides; an output side slab-waveguide connected to the output side of the channel waveguide array and having a wavelength multiplexed signal output port disposed at the focus position of the 0-th diffraction beams obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array, and a monitor signal port disposed at the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides; an output waveguide connected to the output port; a waveguide disposed on the substrate and having one terminal connected to the monitor signal port of the output side slab-waveguide and the other terminal disposed on one end face of the substrate; and a reflecting means disposed on the other terminal of the waveguide for reflecting the signal led out from the monitor signal port.

In this invention, the monitor signal taken out from the output waveguide is led through the waveguide up to the end face of the substrate, and then returned

by the reflecting means disposed on this end face.

According to a fourteenth aspect of the present invention, there is provided an arrayed waveguide grating comprising: a substrate; input waveguides
5 disposed on the substrate for inputting signals of individual wavelengths in correspondence thereto; a channel waveguide grating disposed on the substrate and having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference; an input
10 side slab-waveguide disposed on the substrate and inter-connecting the input side of the channel waveguide array and the input waveguides; an output side slab-waveguide connected to the output side of the channel waveguide array and having a wavelength multiplexed
15 signal output port disposed at the focus position of the 0-th diffraction beams obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array, a monitor signal output port disposed at the focus position
20 of the 0-th order diffraction beams obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides and a monitor signal input port for outputting an output from a predetermined path, through which the signal outputted from the monitor signal output port returns, toward the
25 plurality of input waveguides; a monitor signal output waveguide disposed on the substrate and having one terminal connected to the monitor signal port of the output side slab-waveguide and the other terminal

disposed on one end face of the substrate; a monitor
signal input waveguide disposed on the substrate and
having one terminal connected to the monitor signal input
port in the output side slab-waveguide and the other
5 terminal disposed at a position other than the
afore-mentioned predetermined position on the end face
of the substrate; and an optical fiber for optically
inter-connecting the monitor signal output waveguide at
one end of the substrate and the corresponding terminal
10 of the monitor signal input waveguide.

In this invention, the monitor signal taken out
from the output waveguide is led through the output
waveguide up to the end face of the substrate, so that
it is inputted to the optical fiber connected to the end
15 face from one terminal of the optical fiber and thence
returned through the substrate end face and the monitor
signal input waveguide to the output side slab-
waveguide.

According to a fifteenth aspect of the present
20 invention, there is provided an arrayed waveguide
grating comprising: a substrate; input waveguides
disposed on the substrate for inputting signals of
individual wavelengths in correspondence thereto; a
channel waveguide grating disposed on the substrate and
25 having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing
by a predetermined waveguide length difference; an input
side slab-waveguide disposed on the substrate and
inter-connecting the input side of the channel waveguide

array and the input waveguides; an output side slab-waveguide connected to the output side of the channel waveguide array and having a wavelength multiplexed signal output port disposed at the focus position of the

5 0-th diffraction beams obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array, and a monitor signal port disposed at the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams obtained from the

10 signals inputted from the input waveguides; an output waveguide disposed on the substrate and having one terminal connected to the monitor signal port of the output side slab-waveguide and the other terminal disposed on a predetermined position of the substrate;

15 an optical fiber having one terminal connected to the afore-mentioned other terminal of the output waveguide located on the end face of the substrate; and a reflecting means connected to the other terminal of the optical fiber for reflecting the signal led out from that other

20 terminal.

In this invention, the monitor signal taken out from the output waveguide is led through the output waveguide up to the end face of the substrate and inputted to the optical fiber connected to the end face from one

25 terminal of the optical fiber. The other terminal of the optical fiber is connected to the reflecting means reflecting the signal led from one end of the optical fiber. Thus, it is possible to return the wavelength

multiplexed monitor signal to the output side slab-waveguide.

According to a sixteenth aspect of the present invention, there is provided an arrayed waveguide
5 grating comprising: input waveguides for inputting signals of individual wavelengths in correspondence to these wavelengths; a channel waveguide array having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference; a feedback
10 waveguide for feeding back a multiplexed signal monitor signal; an input side slab-waveguide, in which the input waveguides and the feedback waveguide are disposed on one side and the input side of the channel waveguide array is disposed on the output side; an output side slab-
15 waveguide connected to the output side of the channel waveguide array and having an output port disposed on the focus position of the 0-th diffraction beams obtained from the signal inputted from the input waveguides through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel
20 waveguide array for outputting the wavelength multiplexed signal, a feedback port disposed at the focus position of higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides and one or monitor signal ports for
25 outputting monitor signals separated from the multiplexed signal inputted from the feedback waveguide to the channel waveguide array; an output waveguide connected to the output port of the output side

slab-waveguide; and monitor signal output waveguide connected to the monitor signal port.

In this invention, the wavelength multiplexed monitor signal obtained from the feedback port of the output side slab-waveguide, is inputted to the input side of the input side slab-waveguide by using the feedback waveguide. Thus, the monitor signal can be demultiplexed through the channel waveguide array and taken out from the monitor signal port of the output side slab-waveguide.

According to a seventeenth aspect of the present invention, there is provided an arrayed waveguide grating comprising: input waveguides for inputting signals of individual wavelengths in correspondence to these wavelengths; a channel waveguide array having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference; a feedback fiber for feeding back a multiplexed signal monitor signal; an input side slab-waveguide, in which the input waveguides and the feedback fiber are disposed on one side and the input side of the channel waveguide array is disposed on the output side; an output side slab-waveguide connected to the output side of the channel waveguide array and having an output port disposed on the focus position of the 0-th diffraction beams obtained from the signal is inputted from the input waveguides through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array for outputting the wavelength

5 multiplexed signal, a feedback port disposed at the focus position of higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides and one or monitor signal ports for outputting monitor signals separated from the multiplexed signal inputted from the feedback waveguide to the channel waveguide array; an output waveguide connected to the output port of the output side slab-waveguide; and monitor signal output waveguide connected to the monitor signal port.

15 In this invention, the wavelength multiplexed monitor signal obtained from the feedback port of the output side slab-waveguide, is inputted to the input side of the input side slab-waveguide by using the feedback fiber. Thus, the monitor signal can be demultiplexed through the channel waveguide array and taken out from the monitor signal port of the output side slab-waveguide.

20 According to an eighteenth aspect of the present invention, there is provided an arrayed waveguide grating comprising: input waveguides for inputting signals of individual wavelengths in correspondence to these wavelengths; monitor waveguides disposed at positions individual from the input waveguides for outputting monitor signals; a channel waveguide array having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference; an output side slab-waveguide connected to the output side

of the channel waveguide array and including a signal returning means for causing a signal converged on the focus position of higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array to return from the focus position to the input side; an input side slab-waveguide inter-connecting the input waveguides, the monitor waveguides and the input side of the channel waveguide array for outputting the signal inputted from the output side slab-waveguide to the channel waveguide array to the monitor signal waveguide; an output port disposed on the output side slab-waveguide at the focus position of the 0-th diffraction beams obtained from the signal inputted from the input waveguides for outputting the wavelength multiplexed signal; and an output waveguide connected to the output port.

In this invention, the monitor signal waveguide is connected in addition to the input waveguides for inputting signals to be multiplexed to the input side of the slab-waveguide. The output side slab-waveguide includes the signal returning means for taking out returned on the input side slab-waveguide side from the monitor signal waveguide. The returned monitor signal is obtained from the port other than the input waveguides (the port being deviated in position from the input waveguides).

According to a nineteenth aspect of the present

invention, there is provided the arrayed waveguide grating according to the eighteenth aspect, wherein the monitor waveguide is disposed at the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams obtained from the
5 signals returning from the output side slab-waveguide to the input side slab-waveguide, and the focus positions of the 1-st order diffraction beams are disposed at positions mid way between adjacent ones of the input waveguides.

10 In this invention, the monitor waveguide is provided such that its ports are disposed at the focus positions of the 0-th order diffraction beams obtained from the signals returned to the input side slab-waveguide side. The focus positions of the higher order
15 diffraction beams of the monitor signals are set mid way between adjacent ones of the input ports. Thus, the quantity of the returned signals inputted in the reverse direction to the input waveguides is reduced.

According to a twentieth aspect of the present
20 invention, there is provided the arrayed waveguide grating according to the eighteenth aspect, wherein the monitor waveguides are disposed alternately with the input waveguides at the input side slab-waveguide.

In this invention, the monitor waveguide are
25 disposed between the respective input waveguides, the waveguides are concentrically disposed around the center of the input side slab-waveguide, 0-th order diffraction monitor signal is inputted to the monitor waveguide and

the higher order diffraction beams are focused around these waveguides, reducing the monitor signals in the input waveguide.

According to a twenty-first aspect of the present invention, there is provided the arrayed waveguide grating according to the eighteenth aspect, wherein the input positions of the input side slab-waveguide corresponding to the individual wavelengths of the inputs inputted to the input waveguides are disposed mid way between the 0-th and 1-st diffraction beams returning from the channel waveguide array.

In this invention, wherein the monitor waveguides are disposed mid way between adjacent ones of the focus positions of 0-th and 1-st diffraction beams of the monitor signals returning from the channel waveguide array. With the input waveguide positions and the monitor signal focus positions set such that they are deviated from one another, the monitor signals passing through the input waveguides are reduced.

According to a twenty-second aspect of the present invention, there is provided the arrayed waveguide grating according to the eighteenth aspect, wherein a region covering the positions of the monitor signal ports in the input side slab-waveguide is set such that it does not overlap but separate from a region covering the positions of the input ports.

In this invention, the region covering the positions of the monitor signal ports in the input side

slab-waveguide is spaced apart from the region covering the positions of the input waveguides for inputting the individual wavelength signals, thus reducing the effects of the monitor signals inputted to the input waveguides.

- 5 According to a twenty-third aspect of the present invention, there is provided the arrayed waveguide grating according to the eighteenth aspect, wherein the signal returning means includes a higher order diffraction beam reflecting mirror disposed in the
- 10 output side slab-waveguide at the focus position of the higher order diffraction beams, and a signal returning mirror disposed at a position other than the position of the higher order diffraction beam reflecting mirror and the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams
- 15 for returning the signals reflected by the higher order diffraction beam mirror to the side of the input side.

- In this invention, unlike the case of reflecting the monitor signal by the sole higher order diffraction beam reflecting mirror disposed at the focus position
- 20 of the higher order diffraction beams, the reflected signal is further reflected by a signal returning mirror disposed as a different mirror at a position other than the focus position of, for instance, the 0-th or the 1-st order diffraction beam signals to the side of the input
- 25 side slab-waveguide. Thus, it is possible to reduce the effects of the monitor signals inputted to the input waveguides of the input side slab-waveguide in dependence on the difference between the returning

positions.

According to a twenty-fourth aspect of the present invention, there is provided the arrayed waveguide grating according to the eighteenth aspect, wherein the
5 signal returning means includes a signal returning mirror disposed in the output side slab-waveguide at the focus position of the higher order diffraction beams for returning the higher order diffraction beams incident on that position along a path at a signal angle from the
10 optical axis to the side of the input side.

In this invention, the signal returning mirror for returning the higher order diffraction beams along a path at a signal angle from the optical axis to the input side is provided. Thus, it is possible to reduce the effects
15 of the monitor signal inputted to the input waveguides of the input side slab-waveguide in dependence on the difference between the returning positions.

According to a twenty-fifth aspect of the present invention, there is provided the arrayed waveguide
20 grating according to the eighteenth aspect, wherein the signal returning means includes a mirror disposed on one end face of a substrate with the output side slab-waveguide, a first monitor signal waveguide for leading the signal converged on the focus position of the higher
25 order diffraction beams to the afore-mentioned mirror, and a second monitor signal waveguide, which causes the signal reflected by the afore-mentioned mirror to be inputted to the output side slab-waveguide from a

position thereof other than the output port thereof and the focus position of the higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order for being outputted to the side of the input side.

5 In this invention, the monitor signal taken out from the output side slab-waveguide is led through the first monitor signal waveguide up to the end face of the substrate, and the signal reflected by the mirror disposed at this position is inputted to the input side from a position other than the output port of the output
10 side slab-waveguide and the position of the higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order. Thus, the monitor signal inputted to the input waveguide of the input side slab-waveguide is reduced in dependence on
15 the difference of the position, from which the monitor signal is returned.

 According to a twenty-sixth aspect of the present invention, there is provided the arrayed waveguide grating according to the eighteenth aspect, wherein the
20 signal returning means a monitor signal waveguide, which the signal converged on the focus position of the higher order diffraction beams is inputted to and causes the inputted to be inputted to the output side slab-waveguide from a position thereof other than the output port thereof
25 and the focus position of the higher order diffraction beams for being outputted to the side of the input side.

 In this invention, for realizing the take-out of the signal converged at the focus position of the higher

order diffraction beams and the input of the taken-out
signal from a position other than the focus position of
the higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-
th order, the monitor signal waveguide connecting both
5 the ports is disposed on the substrate.

According to a twenty-seventh aspect of the present
invention, there is provided the arrayed waveguide
grating according to the eighteenth aspect, wherein the
signal returning means includes an optical fiber, which
10 the signal converged on the focus position of the higher
order diffraction beams is inputted to and causes the
input to be inputted to the output side slab-waveguide
from a position thereof other than the output port thereof
and the focus position of the higher order diffraction
15 beams for being outputted to the side of the input side.

In this invention, the optical fiber is used in lieu
of the monitor signal waveguide used in the preceding
case of the invention.

According to a twenty-eighth aspect of the present
20 invention, there is provided an optical communication
system comprising: an optical communication means for
outputting signals of individual wavelengths as parallel
signals; a multiplexer constituted by an arrayed
waveguide grating for wavelength multiplexing the
25 signals of the individual wavelengths outputted from the
optical communication means; an optical transmission
path for transmitting the wavelength multiplexed signal
outputted from the multiplexer; a node provided on the

optical transmission path and including an arrayed waveguide grating; a demultiplexer constituted by an arrayed waveguide grating for separating the individual wavelength signals from the signal inputted through the optical transmission path and the node thereon; an optical reception means for receiving the individual wave signals separated by the multiplexer; and the multiplexer including a plurality of input waveguides for inputting signals of individual wavelengths in correspondence to these wavelengths, and a slab-waveguide having a wavelength multiplexed signal output port disposed at the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction signals of the signals inputted from the input waveguides through an input side slab-waveguide and a channel waveguide array and monitor signal port disposed at the focus position of higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides or monitoring the wavelength multiplexed signal.

In this invention, in the line-structure optical communication system for control by monitor signal, which comprises the optical communication means, the multiplexer constituted by the arrayed waveguide grating for wavelength multiplexing the signals of the individual wavelengths sent out from the optical communication means, the optical transmission line for the wavelength multiplexed signal outputted from the multiplexer, the node provided on the optical

transmission line and including the arrayed waveguide grating disposed thereon at an adequate position, the demultiplexer constituted by the arrayed waveguide grating for demultiplexing the signal led along the
5 signal transmission path and through the node, and the optical receiver for receiving the signal signals of the individual wavelengths separated by the demultiplexer, the demultiplexer as the constituent is constituted by the arrayed waveguide grating as mentioned before in
10 connection with the first-mentioned case of the invention.

According to a twenty-ninth aspect of the present invention, there is provided an optical transmission system comprising a transmission path loop having a
15 plurality of nodes connected to one another by transmission paths such that a wavelength multiplexed signal is sent out to these transmission paths; the nodes each including a first arrayed waveguide grating for separating signals of individual wavelengths from the
20 inputted wavelength multiplexed signal and a second arrayed wavelength waveguide grating for waveguide wavelength multiplexing the separated signals of the individual wavelengths; the second arrayed waveguide grating having a plurality of input waveguides for
25 inputting signals of individual wavelengths in correspondence to these signals, and a slab-waveguide having a wavelength multiplexed signal output port disposed at the focus position of the 0-th diffraction

beams obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides through an input side slab-waveguide and a channel waveguide array and a monitor signal port disposed at the focus position of higher order

- 5 diffraction beams other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides for monitoring the wavelength multiplexed signal.

In this invention, in the loop-structure optical communication system, which comprises the loop

- 10 transmission line including a plurality of nodes connected to one another by transmission lines to a loop from for inputting the wavelength multiplexed signal to these transmission lines, the nodes each including the first arrayed waveguide grating for demultiplexing the
15 wavelength multiplexed signal to separate the individual wavelength signals and the second arrayed waveguide grating for wavelength multiplexing the separated individual wavelength signals, the second waveguide array is constituted by the arrayed waveguide grating
20 as mentioned before in connection with the first-mentioned invention.

- According to a thirtieth aspect of the present invention, there is provided an optical communication system comprising: an optical communication means for
25 outputting signals of individual wavelengths as parallel signals; a multiplexer constituted by an arrayed waveguide grating for wavelength multiplexing the individual wavelength signals outputted from the optical

communication means; an optical transmission path for transmitting the wavelength multiplexed signal outputted from the multiplexer; a node disposed on the optical transmission path and including an arrayed waveguide grating; a demultiplexer for demultiplexing the signal inputted thereto along the optical transmission path and on the node thereon to separate the individual wavelength signals; an optical reception means for receiving the separated individual wavelength signals from the demultiplexer; and the demultiplexer including a plurality of input waveguides and a slab waveguide having a wavelength multiplexed signal output port disposed at the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams inputted from the input waveguides through an input side slab-waveguide and a channel waveguide array, a higher order diffraction beam reflecting means disposed at the focus position of higher order diffraction beam positions other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides for reflecting the higher order diffraction beams to the side of the plurality of input waveguides and one or more monitor signal ports disposed at a position or positions other than the ports of the plurality of input waveguides for inputting a signal or signals reflected by the higher order signal reflecting means.

In this invention, in the line-structure optical transmission system, which comprises the optical

communication means, the multiplexer constituted by the
arrayed waveguide grating for wavelength multiplexing
the individual wavelength signals sent out from the
optical communication means, the optical transmission
5 line for outputting the wavelength multiplexed signal
outputted from the multiplexer, the node including the
arrayed waveguide grating disposed one optical
transmission line at an adequate position, the
demultiplexer constituted by the arrayed waveguide
10 grating for demultiplexing the signal inputted along the
optical transmission line and through the node to
separate the individual wavelength signals, and the
signal receiving means for receiving the individual
wavelength signals separated the demultiplexer, the
15 multiplexer as the constituent is constituted by the
arrayed waveguide grating as mentioned before in
connection with the third-mentioned invention.

According to a thirty-first aspect of the present
invention, there is provided an optical communication
20 system comprising a transmission path loop having a
plurality of nodes connected to one another by
transmission paths such that a wavelength multiplexed
signal is sent out to these transmission paths; the nodes
each including a first arrayed waveguide grating for
25 separating signals of individual wavelengths from the
inputted wavelength multiplexed signal and a second
arrayed wavelength waveguide grating for waveguide
wavelength multiplexing the separated signals of the

individual wavelengths; the second arrayed waveguide grating having a slab-waveguide which includes a plurality of input waveguides for inputting signals of individual wavelengths in correspondence to these
5 signals, a multiplexed signal output port disposed at the focus position of the 0-th diffraction beams obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides through an input side slab-waveguide and a channel waveguide array, a higher order diffraction beam
10 reflecting means for reflecting the higher order diffraction beams to the side of the plurality of input waveguides and a plurality of monitor signal ports disposed at positions other than the port positions of the plurality of input waveguides for inputting the
15 signals reflected by the higher order diffraction beams, and a monitor signal port disposed at the focus position of higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted from the input waveguides for monitoring the wavelength multiplexed
20 signal.

In this invention, in the loop-structure optical communication system, which comprises the loop-structure transmission line including a plurality of nodes connected to one another for inputting the
25 wavelength multiplexed signal to these transmission lines, the nodes each including the first arrayed waveguide grating for demultiplexing the wavelength multiplexed signal to separate the individual wavelength

signals, and the second arrayed waveguide grating for wavelength multiplexing the separated individual wavelength signals. The second arrayed waveguide grating is constituted by the arrayed waveguide grating as mentioned before in connection with the third-mentioned arrayed waveguide grating.

Other objects and features will be clarified from the following description with reference to attached drawings.

10 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 shows an entire construction of an arrayed waveguide grating as a first embodiment of the present invention;

15 Fig. 2 shows, to an enlarged scale, an output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof as shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 shows an entire construction of an arrayed waveguide grating as a second embodiment of the present invention;

20 Fig. 4 shows, to an enlarged scale, an output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof of the array waveguide grating having the above construction;

Fig. 5 shows a construction of an essential part of an optical transmission system using the arrayed waveguide grating as these third embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 6 shows, to an enlarged scale, an output side of the array waveguide grating and the neighborhood

thereof in the optical transmission system having the foregoing construction;

Fig. 7 shows a construction of an arrayed waveguide grating as a fourth embodiment of the present invention;

5 Fig. 8 shows, to an enlarged scale, an output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof in the arrayed waveguide grating having the foregoing construction;

Fig. 9 shows a construction of an essential part
10 of the optical communication system using an arrayed waveguide grating in a fifth embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 10 shows, to an enlarged scale, an output side
of the array waveguide grating and the neighborhood
15 thereof in the optical communication system having the foregoing construction;

Fig. 11 shows a construction of an arrayed
waveguide grating as a sixth embodiment of the present
invention;

20 Fig. 12 shows, to an enlarged scale, an output side slab-waveguide, the neighborhood thereof an the arrayed waveguide grating having the foregoing construction;

Fig. 13 shows a construction of an essential part
of an optical communication system using an arrayed
25 waveguide grating in a seventh embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 14 shows, to an enlarged scale, an output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof in the

optical communication system having the foregoing construction;

Fig. 15 shows an input side slab-waveguide and the input/output terminal neighborhood thereof of an arrayed waveguide grating in an eighth embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 16 shows an input side slab-waveguide and the input/output terminal neighborhood of an arrayed waveguide grating as a ninth embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 17 shows an input side slab-waveguide and the input/output port neighborhood of an arrayed waveguide grating in a tenth embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 18 shows an output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof in an arrayed waveguide grating in an eleventh embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 19 shows an output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof of an arrayed waveguide grating in the twelfth embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 20 shows an output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof in an arrayed waveguide grating as a thirteenth embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 21 shows an output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof of an arrayed waveguide grating in the fourteenth embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 22 shows an output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof in an arrayed waveguide grating as the fifteenth embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 23 shows a summary of the construction of an optical communication system as a third embodiment of the present invention; and

Fig. 24 shows a summary of the construction of the
5 nodes.

PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION

Preferred embodiments of the present invention will now be described with reference to the drawings. Fig. 1 shows the entire construction of an arrayed
10 waveguide grating as a first embodiment of the present invention. In the illustrated arrayed waveguide grating 202₁, on a substrate 202₁, are formed input waveguides 203 for inputting signals, first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205 disposed adjacent to the
15 input waveguides 203, a channel waveguide array 206 having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference, an input side slab-waveguide 207 inter-connecting the input waveguides 203, the first and second monitor signal
20 output waveguides 204 and 205 and the channel waveguide array 206, output waveguides 208 for outputting signals, and an output side slab-waveguide 209, inter-connecting the output waveguides 208 and the channel waveguide array 206.

25 The arrayed waveguide grating 201₁ shown in Fig. 1, is used as an AWG (arrayed waveguide grating) for MUX (multiplexer) for multiplexing a plurality of signals having different wavelengths and outputting the

resultant signal of WDM (Wavelength Division Multiplexing) from the output waveguide 208. As the input waveguides 203 are provided a plurality of waveguides for inputting signals of individual wavelengths. The
5 channel waveguide array 206 has waveguides with lengths thereof progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference, and outputs the plurality of signals such that these signals reach the output side slab-waveguide 209₁ with phase differences. Thus, a
10 signal obtained as a result of wavelength multiplexing of the individual signals with the individual wavelengths, is outputted from an output port corresponding to the output waveguide 208 leading from the output side slab-waveguide 209₁.

15 In this embodiment, as will be described later, the output side slab-waveguide 209₁ is adapted to output the 1-st order diffraction beams obtained from the wavelength multiplexed signals as monitor signal back to the side of the channel waveguide array 206. As the
20 monitor signal passes through the channel waveguide array 206 and the input side slab-waveguide 207, it is demultiplexed, whereby the signals of the initial wavelengths are restored. The restored signals are outputted in the reverse direction from the input side
25 slab-waveguide 207 from the output side thereof and inputted to the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205 to be outputted as monitor signal signals therefrom.

In this embodiment, the monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205 are provided in two regions. In this embodiment, monitor signal is taken out for each channel from a higher received monitor signal level one of the two regions. In other words, monitor signal output waveguides corresponding in number to the number of channels to be monitored are disposed in such optimum regions as to increase the minimum received signal level of all the channels. This arrangement, however, is of course by no means limitative; for example, the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205 may be adopted such that each of them can receive signals of all the channels. In this case, even if a deficiency took place in manufacture in either one of the two monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205, the arrayed waveguide grating 201, itself can be used as good product.

Fig. 2 shows, to an enlarged scale, the output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof as shown in Fig. 1. As shown, the output side slab-waveguide 209₁ has a plurality of input ports 221₁ to 221_N, to which corresponding ports of the channel waveguide array 206 are connected. Signals of individual wavelengths having passed through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array are outputted from the input ports 221₁ to 221_N of the output side slab-waveguide 209₁. The outputted signals are wavelength multiplexed in the output side slab-waveguide 209₁ to be focused on the output side end face thereof. The output side slab-

waveguide 209, has an output port 223 disposed on the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams obtained from the signals. At the output port 223, one terminal of the output waveguide 208 is disposed. At focus
5 positions 224_1 and 224_2 of the 1-st order diffraction beams obtained from the signals inputted to the input ports 221_1 to 221_n , a first and a second mirror 225_2 and 225_2 are disposed such that their reflecting surfaces face the input ports 221_1 to 221_n . In this embodiment,
10 the first and second mirrors are disposed in order to elevate the monitor signal intensity level. However, only a single mirror may of course suffice be used so long as the monitor signal is sufficient level.

Thus, a comparatively high intensity level
15 wavelength multiplexed signal is converged on the output port 223 to be outputted as WDM signal through the output waveguide 208 to the outside of the substrate 202_1 . The 1-st order diffraction beams at the focus positions 224_1 and 224_2 are usually lower in level than the 0-th order
20 diffraction beams. Although not shown, focus positions of diffracted signals of 2-nd and higher orders are also present, and theoretically it is possible to further use these signals as monitor signals. However, the 2-nd and higher order diffraction beams are lower in level than
25 the 1-st order diffraction beams, and according to the present invention they are not utilized.

The first and second mirrors 225_1 and 225_2 reflect the 1-st order diffraction beams as monitor signals. The

reflected signals pass in the reverse direction through the output side slab-waveguide 209, and are outputted from the input ports 221₁ to 221_n thereof to the output side of the channel waveguide array 206 and thence pass
5 in the reverse direction to the signal signals passing from the input side slab-waveguide 207 shown in Fig. 1.

As shown in Fig. 1, the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205 are disposed on the input side of the input side slab-waveguide 207. From
10 the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205, are thus outputted signals of corresponding wavelengths having passed in the reverse direction through the channel waveguide array 206. It is thus possible to maintain optimum intensity levels of the
15 signals constituting the WDM signal 226 by monitoring and adjusting these monitor signals for each wavelength.

Fig. 3 shows the entire construction of an arrayed waveguide grating as a second embodiment of the present invention. In Fig. 3, parts like those in the first
20 embodiment shown in Fig. 1 are designated by like reference numerals, and their description is adequately omitted.

In the arrayed waveguide grating 201, as the second embodiment, on a substrate 202, are formed an input
25 waveguides 203 for inputting signals, first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205 disposed adjacent to the input side waveguides 201, a channel waveguide array 206 having waveguides with lengths

progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference, an input side slab-waveguide 207 inter-connecting the input waveguides 203, the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205 and the channel waveguide array 206, output waveguide 208 for outputting signal, a first and a second monitor signal output waveguide 231 and 232 formed on the opposite sides of the output waveguide 208, an output side slab-waveguide 209, inter-connecting the output waveguide 208, the first and second monitor signal waveguides 231 and 232 and the channel waveguide array 206, and a first and a second mirrors 233 and 234 connected to the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 231 and 232 at the terminal thereof opposite the terminal connected the output side slab-waveguide 209. The first and second mirrors 233 and 234 are formed on an end surface of the substrate 202.

Fig. 4 shows, to an enlarged scale, the output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof of the array waveguide grating having the above construction. As shown, the output side slab-waveguide 209, has a plurality of input ports 221_1 to 221_n , to which corresponding ports of the channel waveguide array 206 are connected. From the input ports 221_1 to 221_n are outputted signals having passed through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array. The outputted signals are multiplexed in the output side slab-waveguide 209, to be focused on the output side end

face thereof. The output side slab-waveguide 209, has an output port 223 disposed on the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams obtained from the signals. At the output port 223, one terminal of the output
5 waveguide 208 is disposed. The output side slab-wavelength 209, also has a first and a second monitor signal output port 241 and 242 disposed on the focus positions 224₁ and 224₂ of the 1-st order diffraction beams obtained from the signals from the input ports 221₁
10 to 221_N. In this embodiment, two, i.e., the first and second, monitor signal output ports are provided in order to elevate the monitor signal intensity level. However, only one of these monitor signal output ports may suffice so long as the monitor signal level is sufficient.

15 The first monitor signal output waveguide 231 has one terminal connected to the first monitor signal port 241, and its other terminal faces the reflecting surface of the first mirror 232, which is formed by deposition or like means on one end face of the substrate 202₂. The
20 second monitor signal waveguide 232 has one terminal connected to the second monitor signal port 242, and its other terminal faces the reflecting surface of the second mirror 234, which is likewise formed by deposition or like means on the end face of the substrate 202₂. The first
25 and second mirrors 233 and 234 may be produced in a separate place and mounted on the end face of the substrate 202₂.

In the arrayed waveguide grating 201₂ as the second

embodiment having the above construction, when a plurality of signals of individual wavelengths are inputted from the input waveguide 203, the channel waveguide array 206 having waveguides with wavelengths thereof progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference, outputs these signals such that these signals reach the output side slab-waveguide 209₂ with phase differences. Thus, a signal obtained as a result of wavelength multiplexing of the individual wavelength signal signals, is outputted from the output port 223 to be incident on and pass through the output waveguide 208 and outputted as the WDM signal 226 to the outside of the substrate 202₂.

Meanwhile, the 1-st order diffraction beams obtained from the incident signals are focused on the first and second monitor signal ports 241 and 242. At each of these focus positions, one terminal of each of the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 231 and 232 is disposed. Thus, the wavelength multiplexed signals at these focus positions pass through the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 231 and 232 to be incident on the first and second mirrors 233 and 234. These incident signals are fully reflected to pass in the reverse direction through the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 231 and 232 and reach the first and second monitor signal ports 241 and 242. Subsequently, as described before in connection with the first embodiment, the signals pass from the input ports

221₁ to 221_n through the channel waveguide array 206 and reach the input side slab-waveguide 207 shown in Fig. 3.

As shown in Fig. 3, the input waveguide 203 and the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205 are disposed on the input side of the input side slab-waveguide 207. Thus, signals of corresponding wavelengths having passed from the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205 in the reverse direction through the channel waveguide array 206, are outputted from the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205. By monitoring the signals having passed through these monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205, it is possible to check the state of the signals incident on the output side slab-waveguide 209₂ after passing through the input waveguide 203.

Fig. 5 shows the construction of an essential part of an optical transmission system using the arrayed waveguide grating as these third embodiment of the present invention. In Fig. 5, parts like those in the first embodiment shown in Fig. 1 are designated by like reference numerals, and their description is adequately omitted. The illustrated optical transmission system as the third embodiment comprises an arrayed waveguide grating 201₁, in which on a substrate 202, are formed input waveguides 203 for inputting signals, first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205 extending

adjacent to the input waveguide 203, a channel waveguide array 206 having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference, an input side slab-waveguide 207 inter-
5 connecting the input waveguide 203, the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205 and the channel waveguide array 206, an output waveguide 208 for outputting a signal, a first and a second monitor signal output waveguide 231 and 232 formed on the opposite sides
10 of the output waveguide 202, an output side slab-waveguide 209, inter-connecting the output waveguide 208, the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 231 and 232 and the channel waveguide array 206, and a first array 251 connected to the output waveguide 208
15 and the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 231 and 232 at one end of the substrate 202.

Fig. 6 shows, to an enlarged scale, the output side of the array waveguide grating and the neighborhood thereof in the optical transmission system having the
20 above construction. The fiber array 251 includes a signal output fiber 252 optically connected to the output waveguide 208 for taking out a WDM signal 226, and monitor signal fibers 253 and 254 optically connected to the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 232 and 232.
25 The monitor signal fiber arrays 253 and 254 have fully reflecting terminals 255 and 256 opposite the terminals on the side of the substrate 202. Such fully reflecting terminals can be realized by depositing a metal on the

terminals of the monitor signal fibers 253 and 254. Alternatively, it is possible to directly use commercially available products. Of course, it is further possible to form the fully reflecting terminals
5 255 and 256 by disposing mirrors or like products.

Again in the arrayed waveguide grating 201, as the third embodiment, the 1-st order diffraction beams having passed through the monitor signal fibers 253 and 254 connected to the output side of the output slab-waveguide 209,, are fully reflected by the fully
10 reflecting terminals 255 and 256 to return back to the output side slab-waveguide 209,. The multiplexed signals for monitoring pass in the reverse direction through the channel waveguide array 206, and are branched to be
15 outputted as monitor signals of individual wavelengths from the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205. By monitoring these monitor signals, it is possible to check the state of the signals incident on the output side slab-waveguide 209, after
20 passing through the input waveguide 203.

Fig. 7 shows the construction of an arrayed waveguide grating as a fourth embodiment of the present invention. In Fig. 7, parts like those in the second embodiment shown in Fig. 2 are designated by like
25 reference numerals, and their description is adequately omitted. In the arrayed waveguide grating 201, in the optical communication system as the fourth embodiment, on a substrate 202, are formed an input waveguide 203 for

inputting signals, a first and a second monitor signal output waveguide 204 and 205, a channel waveguide array 206 having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length

5 difference, an input side slab-waveguide 207 inter-connecting the input waveguide 203, the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205 and the channel waveguide array 206, an output waveguide 205 for outputting a signal, a first and a second monitor signal
10 waveguide 231A and 232A formed on the opposite sides of the output waveguide 207, an output side slab-waveguide 309 inter-connecting the output waveguide 208, the first and second monitor signal waveguides 231A and 232A and the channel waveguide array 206, and a first and a second
15 mirror 233A and 234A connected to the first and second monitor signal waveguides 231A and 232A at the terminals thereof on the side opposite the output side slab-waveguide 209₂.

Fig. 8 shows, to an enlarged scale, the output side
20 slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof in the arrayed waveguide grating having the above construction. As shown, the output side slab-waveguide 209₂ of the arrayed waveguide grating has a plurality of input ports 221₁ to 221_N, to which corresponding ports of the channel
25 waveguide array 206 are connected. signals having passed through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array are outputted from the input ports 221₁ to 221_N. The outputted signals are wavelength multiplexed

in the output side slab-waveguide 209, on the output side end face thereof. The output side slab-waveguide 209, has an output port 223 disposed on the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams to be obtained from the signals. At the output port 223, one terminal of the output wavelength 208 is disposed. At focus positions 224₁ and 224₂ of the 1-st order diffraction beams of the signals of the individual wavelengths inputted from the input ports 221₁ to 221_N, a first and a second monitor signal port 241 and 242 are disposed.

A first monitor signal waveguide 231A is connected at one terminal to the first monitor signal port 241, and has the other terminal facing the reflecting surface of a first mirror 233A, which is formed by deposition or like means at a predetermined position on the inner side of end face of the substrate 202₄. A second monitor signal waveguide 232A is connected at one terminal to the first monitor signal port 241, and has the other terminal facing the reflecting surface of a second mirror 234A, which is formed by deposition or like means at a predetermined position on the inner side of the end face of the substrate 202₂. The first and second mirrors 233A and 234A may also be formed by depositing metal or the like on or bonding material having a individual refractive index to the other terminal of the first and second monitor signal waveguides 231A and 232A.

In the arrayed waveguide grating 201, as the fourth embodiment having the above construction, when signals

of individual wavelengths are inputted from the input waveguide 203, the channel waveguide array 206 with wavelengths thereof progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference, outputs these signals such that these signals reach the output side slab-waveguide 209, with phase differences. Thus, a signal obtained as a result of wavelength multiplexing of the individual wavelength signals, is outputted from the output part 223 to be incident on and pass through the output waveguide 208 and outputted as the WDM signal 226 to the outside of the substrate 202.

Meanwhile, the 1-st order diffraction beams obtained from the incident signals are focused on the first and second monitor signal ports 241 and 242. At each of these focus positions, one terminal of each of the first and second monitor signal waveguides 231A and 232A is disposed. Thus, the wavelength multiplexed signals at these focus positions pass through the first and second monitor signal waveguides 231A and 232A incident on the first and second mirrors 233A and 234A. These incident signals are fully reflected and pass in the reverse direction through the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 231A and 232A to the first and second signal ports 241 and 242. Subsequently, as described before in connection with the first embodiment, the signals pass from the input ports 221, to 221_n through the channel waveguide array 206 to the input side slab-waveguide 207 shown in Fig. 7.

As shown in Fig. 7, the input waveguide 203 and the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205 are disposed on the input side of the input side slab-waveguide 207. Thus, signals of corresponding
5 wavelengths having passed from the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205 in the reverse direction through the channel waveguide array 206, are outputted from the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205. By monitoring at
10 least one of the signal signals having passed through these monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205, it is possible to check the state of the signals incident on the output side slab-waveguide 209, after passing through the input waveguide 203.

15 Fig. 9 shows the construction of an essential part of the optical communication system using an arrayed waveguide grating in a fifth embodiment of the present invention. In Fig. 9, parts like those in the second embodiment shown in Fig. 3 are designated by like
20 reference numerals, and their description is adequately omitted. In the arrayed waveguide grating 201, of the optical communication device shown in Fig. 5, on a substrate 202, are formed an input waveguide 203 for inputting signals, a first and a second monitor signal
25 output waveguide 204 and 205 formed on the opposite sides of the input waveguide 203, a channel waveguide array 206 having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length

difference, an input side slab-waveguide 207 inter-connecting the input waveguide 203, the first and second monitor signal waveguides 204 and 205 and the channel waveguide array 206, an output waveguide 208 for

5 outputting signals, a first and a second monitor signal waveguide 231 and 232 formed on the opposite sides of the output waveguide 208, an output side slab-waveguide 209, inter-connecting the output waveguide 208, the first and second monitor signal waveguides 231 and 232 and the channel waveguide array 206, and an optical fiber 272 inter-connecting the first and second monitor signal waveguides 231 and 232 at one end of the substrate 202.

Fig. 10 shows, to an enlarged scale, the output side of the array waveguide grating and the neighborhood
15 thereof in the optical communication system having the above construction. At the end of the substrate 202, a signal output fiber 252 is connected to the output waveguide 208, while like terminals of the first and second monitor signal waveguides 231 and 232 are

20 inter-connected by the optical fiber 201. Thus, the multiplexed monitor signal inputted to the first monitor signal waveguide 231 returns through the optical fiber 271 to the second monitor signal waveguide 232, and the multiplexed monitor signal inputted to the second
25 monitor signal waveguide 232 returns through the optical fiber 271 to the first monitor signal waveguide 231. The multiplexed monitor signals thus returned to the output side slab-waveguide 209, pass in the reverse direction

through the channel waveguide grating 206 and branched to be outputted as monitor signals of individual wavelengths from the first and second monitor signal output waveguides 204 and 205 shown in Fig. 9. By
5 monitoring these signals, it is possible to check the state of the signals incident on the output side slab-waveguide 209, after passing through the input waveguide 203.

Fig. 11 shows the construction of an arrayed waveguide grating as a sixth embodiment of the present
10 invention. In Fig. 11, parts like those in the second embodiment shown in Fig. 3 are designated by like reference numerals, and their description is adequately omitted.

15 In the arrayed waveguide grating 201, as the sixth embodiment, on a substrate 202, are formed an input waveguide 203 for inputting signals, a channel waveguide grating 206 having waveguides with lengths progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length
20 difference, an input side slab-wavelength inter-connecting the input wavelength 203, a feedback waveguide 281 and a channel waveguide array 207, an output waveguide 208 for outputting a signal, a monitor signal output waveguide 282 having one end connected to
25 one end of the substrate 202, and an output side slab-waveguide. 209, inter-connecting the output waveguide 208, the other terminals of the monitor signal output waveguide 202 and the feedback waveguide 201 and

the channel waveguide array 206.

Fig. 12 shows, to an enlarged scale, the output side slab-waveguide, the neighborhood thereof and the arrayed waveguide grating having the above construction. As

5 shown, the output side slab-waveguide 209₆ has a plurality of input ports 221₁ to 221_N, to which corresponding ports of the channel waveguide array are connected. signals having passed through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array are
10 outputted from the input ports 221₁ to 221_N. The outputted signals are multiplexed in the output side slab-waveguide 209₁ to be focused on the output side end face thereof. At the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams of signals, an output port 223 is
15 disposed. At the output port 223, one terminal of the output waveguide is disposed. At the focus position of the 1-st diffraction beams of the signals led out from the input ports 221₁ to 221_N, the afore-mentioned other terminal of the feedback waveguide 281 is disposed.

20 The monitor signal output waveguide 282 has one terminal connected to a feedback signal focus position 284 individual from the focus position of the signals outputted from the input waveguide 203, and its other terminal ports extend up to the end face of the substrate
25 202, and connected to terminals of optical fibers constituting the monitor signal fiber array 285. To the output waveguide 208 is connected a WDM signal output fiber 252 for taking out a WDM signal 226 optically

coupled thereto.

In the arrayed waveguide grating 201, as the sixth embodiment having the above construction, when signals of individual wavelengths are inputted from the input waveguide 208, the channel waveguide array 206 having waveguides with wavelengths thereof progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference, outputs these signals such that these signals are inputted to the output side slab-waveguide 209, with phase differences. Thus, a signal obtained as a result of wavelength multiplexing of the individual wavelength signals is outputted from the output port 223 to be incident on and passed through the output waveguide 208 and outputted as the WDM signal 226 to the outside of the substrate 202.

Meanwhile, the 1-st order diffraction beams obtained from the incident signals inputted from the input waveguide are focused on the 1-st order diffraction beam focus position 224. The feedback waveguide 281 has one terminal of the feedback waveguide 281 disposed at this focus position. Thus, the wavelength multiplexed signal at this focus position pass through the feedback waveguide 281 to be inputted to the input side slab-waveguide 207, from the input port thereof. This multiplexed monitor signal is inputted to the channel waveguide array 206 together with the intrinsic signals from the input waveguide 203. The incident signals pass through the channel waveguide array 206, and are branched

in the output side slab-waveguide 209, to the initial wavelengths for being outputted. Thus, monitor signals branched to the individual wavelengths are obtained at the feedback signal focus position 204. By monitoring
5 signals having passed through the monitor signal fiber array 285, it is possible to check the state of the signals incident on the output side slab-waveguide 209, after passing through the input waveguide 203.

Fig. 13 shows the construction of an essential part
10 of an optical communication system using an arrayed waveguide grating in a seventh embodiment of the present invention. In Fig. 13, parts like those in the second embodiment shown in Fig. 2 are designated by like reference numerals, and their description is adequately
15 omitted.

In the arrayed waveguide grating 201, as the seventh embodiment, on a substrate 202, are formed an input waveguides 203 for inputting signals, a channel waveguide grating 206 having waveguides with lengths
20 progressively increasing by a predetermined waveguide length difference, an input side slab-waveguide 207, inter-connecting the input waveguide 203 and the channel waveguide array 206, output waveguides 208 for outputting signals, a monitor signal output waveguide
25 282 having one terminal disposed on one end of the substrate 202,, a second monitor signal waveguide, and an output side slab-waveguide 209, inter-connecting the output waveguides 208 and one terminals of the monitor

signal 282 and the second monitor signal waveguide 232. The other terminal of the second monitor signal waveguide 232 extends up to the end face of the substrate 202,, the end face being connected to the input side slab-waveguide 207, by a feedback signal fiber 291.

Fig. 14 shows, to an enlarged scale, the output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof in the optical communication system having the above construction. As shown, the output side slab-waveguide 209₁ has a plurality of input terminals 221₁-221_n, to which corresponding wavelength ports of the channel waveguide array 206 are connected. Signals having passed through the input side slab-waveguide and the channel waveguide array are outputted from the input ports 221₁ to 221_n.

The outputted signals are multiplied in the output side slab-waveguide 209₁ to be focused on the output side end face thereof. The output side slab-waveguide has an output port 223 disposed on the focus position of the 0-th order diffraction beams obtained from the signals.

At the output port 223, one terminal of the output waveguide 208 is disposed. At the focus position 224₂ of the 1-st diffraction beams obtained from the signals incident on the input ports 221₁ to 221_n, the aforementioned other terminal 242 of the feedback signal waveguide 281 is disposed.

At the branched fed-back monitor signal focus position 284, one terminal of the monitor signal output waveguide 282 is connected. The other terminal of the

monitor signal output waveguide 282 extends up to the end face 202₂ and is connected to terminals of optical fibers constituting a monitor signal fiber array 285. To the output waveguide 203 is connected a WDM signal
5 output fiber 252 optically coupled thereto for taking out a WDM signal 226. The other end of the second monitor signal waveguide 232 is connected to one terminal of the feedback signal fiber 291.

In the arrayed waveguide grating 201, as the seventh
10 embodiment, when a plurality of signals of individual wavelengths are inputted from the input waveguide 203, the channel waveguide array 206 having waveguides with wavelength thereof increasing progressively by a predetermined length difference, outputs these signals
15 such that these signals are inputted to the output side slab-waveguide 209, with phase differences. Thus, a signal obtained as a result of wavelength multiplexing of the individual wavelength signals, passes from the output port 223 to be incident on and pass through the
20 output waveguide 208 and outputted as the WDM signal 226 to the outside of the substrate 202₂.

Meanwhile, the 1-st order diffraction beams obtained from the incident signal are focused on the focus position 224₂ of the 1-st diffraction beams of the signals
25 inputted from the input waveguide. At this focus position, one terminal of the second monitor signal waveguide 232 is disposed. Thus, the wavelength multiplexed signal at the focus position noted above pass through the second

monitor signal waveguide 232 and thence through the feedback signal optical fiber 291 and are inputted to the input side slab-waveguide 207, from the input port thereof. This multiplexed monitor signal is inputted to
5 the channel waveguide array 208 together with the intrinsic signals from the input waveguide 203. These inputted signals pass through the channel waveguide array 206 and branched in the output side slab-waveguide 209, to the initial wavelengths and outputted. The
10 monitor signals obtained as a result of the branching to the individual wavelengths are obtained at the feedback signal focus position 284. Thus, by monitoring the monitor signals having passed through the monitor signal fiber array, it is possible to check the state
15 of the signals inputted to the output side slab-waveguide 209, after passing through the input waveguide 203.

In the first to fifth embodiments described above, the monitor signal returned to the input side slab-waveguide 207 is taken out by using the first or second
20 monitor signal output waveguide 204 or 205. This means that if no measure is provided, the monitor signal inputted in the reverse direction to the input side slab-waveguide 207 is also led to the input waveguide 203 to be transmitted to the signal transmitting side
25 or the signal source side. The same problem takes place in the output side slab-waveguides 209, and 209, as the sixth and seventh embodiments. The problem can be solved by various measures. However, instead of adopting such

measures, it is effective to reduce the level of the monitor signal inputted to the input waveguide 203 down to such a level as not to present any practical problem.

Fig. 15 shows an input side slab-waveguide and the input/output terminal neighborhood thereof of an arrayed waveguide grating in an eighth embodiment of the present invention. In Fig. 15, parts like those in Fig. 1 are designated by like reference numerals, and their description is adequately omitted. In the input side slab-waveguide 207A in this embodiment, the 0-th order diffraction beams 301 inputted from a channel waveguide array 206 to an input side slab-waveguide 207A is focused on a second monitor signal output waveguide 205 at each monitor signal port thereof. The input waveguide 203 is disposed such that the 1-st order diffraction beams of the monitor signals are focused at positions shifted by one-half channel, i.e., at positions mid way between adjacent its main signal input ports.

Since the input waveguide 203 is disposed such that the 0-th order diffraction beams are focused on the positions mid way between the input ports, it is possible to reduce the level of the monitor signals returning through the input waveguide 203 to the signal source side down to such an extent that practically no problem arises.

Fig. 16 shows an input side slab-waveguide and the input/output terminal neighborhood of an arrayed waveguide grating as a ninth embodiment of the present invention. In Fig. 16, parts like these in Fig. 1 are

designated by like reference numerals, and their description is adequately omitted. In the input side slab-waveguide 207B in this embodiment, the 0-th order diffraction beams 301 inputted from the channel

5 waveguide array 206 to the input side slab-waveguide 207A is focused on the second monitor signal output waveguide 205 at each monitor signal port position. This is the same as in the case of the eighth embodiment. In this embodiment, the focus positions of the 0-th and 1-st order diffraction beams are spaced apart by a distance
10 L greater than that in the case of the eighth embodiment. That is, the 1-st diffraction beams 302 of the monitor signals are focused at a position spaced apart to the side of the port disposition position of the input
15 waveguide 203 opposite the port disposition position of the second monitor signal output waveguide 205.

At each main signal port, the 2-nd and higher order monitor signals (not shown) are focused at positions spaced apart from the port disposition position of the
20 input waveguide 203, and thus no problem arises concerning the monitor signals returning to the signal source side by passing through the input waveguide 203.

Fig. 17 shows an input side slab-waveguide and the input/output port neighborhood of an arrayed waveguide
25 grating in a tenth embodiment of the present invention. In Fig. 17, parts like those shown in Fig. 12 are designated by like reference numerals. In the input side slab-waveguide 207C in this embodiment, the 0-th order

diffraction beams 301 inputted from the output side of the channel waveguide array 206 are focused on each monitor signal port position of the monitor signal output waveguide 308.

5 In this embodiment, the monitor signal output waveguide 308 has monitor signal input ports (shown by triangle mark) disposed mid way between adjacent ones of the input ports 312 (shown by circle mark) of the input waveguide 203. The 1-st and higher order diffraction
10 beams of the monitor signals are focused on the output side of these focus positions. Thus, again in this embodiment, it is possible to greatly reduce the monitor signals passing from the input ports 312 to the input waveguide 203. Besides, since the input waveguide 203
15 and the monitor signal output waveguide 308 are both disposed on the central part of the input side slab-waveguide 207C, it is possible to reduce loss in the monitor signal output waveguide 308.

 In the above eighth to tenth embodiments, it has
20 been shown that it is possible to reduce attenuation by reflection to the side of the main ports. Specific arrangements for practicing this will now be described.

 Fig. 18 shows an output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof in an arrayed waveguide grating in
25 an eleventh embodiment of the present invention. The 0-th order diffraction beams 331 inputted from a channel waveguide array 206 to an output side slab-waveguide 209A pass from the output port to an output waveguide 208.

The 1-st order diffraction beams 332 are incident in a mirror 333 on a direction signally inclined from perpendicular direction to the 1-st order diffraction beams 332 and are returned as reflected signals 335 to the output side of the channel waveguide array 206.

Denoting the angle defined by the optical paths of the 0-th and 1-st diffraction beams in the Figure by θ_1 and the angle defined by the optical paths of the 0-order diffraction beams 331 and the reflected signals 335 by θ_2 , by merely signally changing the angle of the monitor signals reflected from the output side slab-waveguide 209A, it is possible to reduce the quantity of monitor signals returning to the input waveguide 203 (see Fig. 1) compared to the case, in which the monitor signals return along the same path as of the inputted signals as in the first embodiment shown in Fig. 2.

The mirror 333 can be formed highly accurately by means of depositing a metal or a material individual from the neighboring material on a part corresponding to it during or after the formation of the output side slab-waveguide 209A. It is also possible to form an additional mirror on the 1-st diffraction beam focus position on the opposite side of the output waveguide 208. This also is true in a twelfth embodiment to be next described.

Fig. 19 shows an output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof of an arrayed waveguide grating in the twelfth embodiment of the present invention. In Fig.

19, parts like those in Fig. 19 are designated by like reference numerals, and their description is adequately omitted.

In the output side slab-waveguide 209B as this
5 embodiment, unlike the preceding eleventh embodiment, two mirrors 341 are disposed at the 1-st order diffraction beam signal focus position. The two mirrors 341 each have two faces 341₁ and 341₂ spaced apart from and facing each other. The spacing and angle between the two faces 341₁
10 and 341₂ of each of the two mirrors 341 can be controlled independently of the other. Thus, it is possible to increase the reflection angle control range compared to the eleventh embodiment. Of course, it is possible to use three or more reflecting mirrors, and the reflecting
15 mirror or mirrors may be disposed at any position or positions in the output side slab-waveguide 209B.

Fig. 20 shows an output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof in an arrayed waveguide grating as a thirteenth embodiment of the present invention. In Fig.
20 20, parts like those in Figs. 4 and 18 are designated by like reference numerals, and their description is adequately omitted.

In the output side slab-waveguide 209C as this
25 embodiment shown in Figs. 3 and 4, has a first and a second mirror 233 and 234 formed at one end. A first monitor signal waveguide 231 has one terminal connected to a first monitor signal port 241, on which the 1-st diffraction

beams are focused, and its other terminal faces the reflecting surface of the first monitor 233 formed on the end face of the substrate 2022. The second monitor signal waveguide 232 has one terminal connected to the
5 second monitor signal port 242, on which the 1-st order diffraction beams are focused, and its other terminal faces the reflecting face of the second mirror 234 formed on the end face of the substrate 202₂.

In this embodiment, unlike the substrate 202, in
10 the second embodiment, the reflected signals of the monitor signals from the first mirror 233 are returned through a first reflected signal waveguide 361 to an output side slab-waveguide 209C from a position thereof, which neither the 0-th or the 1-st order diffraction beam
15 focus position. This also applies to the second mirror 234, that is, the reflected signals of the monitor signals from the mirror are returned through a second reflected signal waveguide 209C from a position thereof, which is
20 neither the 0-th nor the 1-st order diffraction beam focus position. It is thus possible to reduce the quantity of signals returned to the input waveguide 203 (see Fig. 1). It is not necessary to use the two, i.e., the first and second, mirrors as in this example, and either one mirror may suffice. This also applies to a fourteenth
25 and a fifteenth embodiment described hereinunder.

Fig. 21 shows an output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof of an arrayed waveguide grating in the fourteenth embodiment of the present invention. In

Fig. 21, parts like those in Figs. 10 and 20 are designated by like reference numerals, and their description is adequately omitted.

In the output side slab-waveguide 209D as this embodiment, a first and a second monitor signal waveguide 231 and 232 extend up to the end face of the substrate 202₁₄. Also, a first and a second reflected signal waveguide 381 and 382 are provided such that they extend substantially parallel to the monitor signal waveguides 231 and 232. The first reflected signal waveguide 381 is connected to the output side slab-waveguide 209D at the same position thereof as of the first reflected signal waveguide 361 shown in Fig. 20. Likewise, the second reflected signal waveguide 209D is connected to the output side slab-waveguide 209D at the same position as of the second reflected signal waveguide 362 shown in Fig. 20. A fiber array 384 is connected to the end face of the substrate 202₁₄.

In the fiber array 384, a signal output fiber 252 is optically coupled to the output waveguide 208 for taking out the WDM signal 226. A first connecting optical fiber 391 inter-connects the first monitor signal waveguide 231 and the first reflected signal waveguide 381. Likewise, a second connecting optical fiber 392 inter-connects the second monitor signal waveguide 232 and the second reflected signal waveguide 382. Thus, one monitor signal is returned through the first reflected signal waveguide 381 is returned to the output side

slab-waveguide 209D from a position thereof, which is neither the 0-th or the 1-st diffraction beam focus position. It is thus possible to reduce the quantity of signals returned to the input waveguide (see Fig. 1).

5 Fig. 22 shows an output side slab-waveguide and the neighborhood thereof in an arrayed waveguide grating as the fifteenth embodiment of the present invention. In Fig. 22, parts like those in Fig. 21 are designated by like reference numerals, and their description is
10 adequately omitted.

 In this embodiment, the output side slab-waveguide 209E has a first connecting waveguide 395 extending along such a path as to optically inter-connect the first monitor signal waveguide 31 and the first reflected
15 signal waveguide 381 in the previous embodiment 5 on the inner side of the substrate 202₁₅. The output side slab-waveguide 209E also has a second connecting waveguide 396 formed along such a path as to optically inter-connect the second monitor signal waveguide 232
20 and the second reflected signal waveguide 382 on the inner side of the substrate 202₁₅. Thus, monitor signal is returned through the first connecting waveguide 395 to the output side slab-waveguide 209B at a position thereof, which is neither the 0-th nor the 1-st diffraction beam
25 focus position. The other monitor signal is returned through the second connecting waveguide 396 of the output side slab-waveguide 209B at a position thereof, which is neither the 0-th nor the 1-st diffraction beam focus

position. Thus, it is possible to reduce the quantity of signals returning to the input waveguide (see Fig. 1).

Fig. 23 shows a summary of the construction of an optical communication system as a third embodiment of the present invention. In this optical communication system, signals of N channels of waveguides 1 to N outputted to an optical transmitter connected to an SONET (Synchronous Optical Network) system (not shown) provided on the transmission side, are multiplexed in an optical multiplexer (MUX) 402, then amplified in a booster amplifier 403 and then outputted to an optical transmission line 404. The optical multiplexer 402 is constituted by, for instance, an arrayed waveguide grating such as described before in connection with the first embodiment. The wavelength multiplexed signal 405 is adequately amplified in an in-line amplifier 406, and then led through a pre-amplifier 407 to an optical demultiplexer (DMUX) 408 for demultiplexing to separate the initial wavelengths λ_1 to λ_n , which are received in an optical receiver 409. On the optical transmission line 404, a suitable number of nodes (OADM) 411_1 to 411_n are disposed. Signals of desired wavelengths are inputted to and outputted from the nodes 411_1 to 411_n .

Fig. 24 shows a summary of the construction of the nodes. Here, the first node 411_1 is shown, but the second to M-th nodes 411_2 to 411_n also have the same construction. The signal from the optical transmission line 404 shown

in Fig. 23 is inputted to an input side arrayed waveguide grating 421 in the first node 411₁ for demultiplexing to separate signal signals in N channels of wavelengths λ_1 to λ_N . The separated signals of the wavelengths λ_1 to λ_N are dropped by two-input two-output optical switches 422₁ to 422_N, which are each provided for each of the wavelengths λ_1 to λ_N , to a node side receiver 426. Also, signals transmitted from the wavelengths λ_1 and λ_N are added from a node side transmitter 424. An output side arrayed waveguide grating 428 is an element having a construction inverse to the input side arrayed waveguide grating 421, and it multiplexes the signals in the N channels of the wavelengths λ_1 to λ_N to output the signal 405 obtained by the wavelength multiplexing to the optical transmission line 404.

As shown above, the first node 411₁ shown in Fig. 24, the second to M-th nodes 411₂ to 411_N (not shown) and the optical multiplexer 408 all use an arrayed waveguide grating. Thus, to meet a demand for increasing the channel number N of the signal 405, the wavelength stability and the output level monitoring of laser signals taken out from the output side slab-waveguide of the arrayed waveguide grating become important. As shown in Fig. 23, to meet this demand output monitoring controllers 431₁ to 431_N and 431_s are provided in correspondence to the modes 411₁ to 411_N and the optical transmitter 401.

As has been described in the foregoing, according to the first to third and ninth to twenty seventh aspects

of the present invention, the higher order diffraction beam signals other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted to the output side slab-waveguide of the arrayed waveguide grating are used for monitoring.

- 5 Thus, compared to the method of obtaining the monitor signals by demultiplexing the intrinsic wavelength multiplexed signals, not only such demultiplexing means is necessary, but also the signal level of the intrinsic multiplexed signal is not reduced because no
- 10 demultiplexing is done. Besides, since the higher order diffraction beams are used, it is possible to obtain accurate monitoring.

- Also, according to the fourth to eighth aspects of the present inventions, the higher order diffraction
- 15 beams other than the 0-th order obtained from the signals inputted to the slab-waveguide of the arrayed waveguide grating of the optical transmission system. Thus, compared to the method of obtaining the monitor signals by demultiplexing the intrinsic wavelength multiplexed
- 20 signal, such demultiplexing means is unnecessary. It is thus possible to reduce the cost and size of the optical communication system. Besides, since the intrinsic signal is not demultiplexed, the signal level is not reduced. Furthermore, since the higher order diffraction
- 25 beams are used, it is possible to obtain accurate monitoring.

Furthermore, according to the twenty-eighth to thirty-first aspects of the present inventions, the

higher order diffraction beams other than the 0-th
obtained from the signals inputted to the slab-waveguide
of the arrayed waveguide grating of the optical
communication system are used for monitoring. Thus,
5 compared to the method of obtaining the monitor signals
by demultiplexing the intrinsic wavelength multiplexed
signal, such demultiplexing means is unnecessary. It is
thus possible to reduce the cost and size of the entire
optical communication system. Besides, since the
10 intrinsic signal is not demultiplexed, the signal level
is not reduced. Furthermore, since the higher order
diffraction beams are used, it is possible to obtain
accurate monitoring.

Changes in construction will occur to those skilled
15 in the art and various apparently different
modifications and embodiments may be made without
departing from the scope of the present invention. The
matter set forth in the foregoing description and
accompanying drawings is offered by way of illustration
20 only. It is therefore intended that the foregoing
description be regarded as illustrative rather than
limiting.